



Office of the Mayor

ACTION CALENDAR

April 3, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Jesse Arreguín and Councilmember Linda Maio

Subject: Amending the Council Rules of Procedure and Order: Public Comment on the Consent Calendar

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution revising the City Council Rules of Procedure and Order to amend Chapter IV, Section A, Subsection 1 to remove limits on the number of speakers on a Consent Item, and to allow only Councilmembers to move a Consent Item to the Action Calendar.

BACKGROUND

The City Council Rules of Procedure and Order governs the duties of the Council, the conduct of meetings, the agenda, procedural matters and facilities. The rules have been amended as necessary over time to improve the function and conduct of City Council meetings.

To improve the efficiency of the Consent Calendar, and to avoid confusion over the number of speakers allowed to speak on an item, the following amendments are proposed for Chapter IV, Section A, Subsection 1 of the Rules of Procedure:

Public Comment on Consent Calendar and Information Items.

The Council will first determine whether to move items on the agenda for action or “Information” to the “Consent Calendar”, or move “Consent Calendar” items to action. Items that remain on the “Consent Calendar” are voted on in one motion as a group. “Information” items are not discussed or acted upon at the Council meeting unless they are moved to “Action” or “Consent”.

The Council will then take public comment on any items that are either on the amended Consent Calendar or the Information Calendar. ~~Up to three speakers will be entitled to two minutes each to speak in opposition to or support of a Consent Calendar or Information item. The Presiding Officer will ask additional persons in the audience to stand to demonstrate their respective opposition to or support of the item.~~ A speaker may only speak once during the period for public comment on Consent Calendar and Information items.

~~In the event that there are more than three persons wishing to speak either in opposition to or support of a "Consent" or "Information" item, the Presiding Officer will move the item to the Action Calendar. Prior to moving the item, the Presiding Officer will fully inform those persons in the audience of this process. The Presiding Officer has the authority to reschedule the removed "Consent" or "Information" item to either the beginning or the end of the Action Calendar.~~

After hearing from public speakers regarding items remaining on the Consent Calendar and Information section of the agenda, any Council Member may move any Information or Consent item to "Action", however no additional items can be moved onto the Consent Calendar at that point. Following this, the Council will vote on the items remaining on the Consent Calendar in one motion.

For items removed from the Consent Calendar or Information section of the agenda to the Action Calendar for additional public comment, at the time the matter is taken up during the Action Calendar, public comment will be limited to persons who have not previously addressed that item during the Information or Consent Calendar related public comment period.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No impacts to the environment.

CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Jesse Arreguín 510-981-7100

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

RE-ADOPTING THE CITY COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE AND ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Council Rules of Procedure and Order incorporated by reference shall govern all proceedings of the City Council therein described, subject to the exception and deviations provided for in such rules.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that violation of these rules shall not be construed as a penal offense, except as provided for by the adopted Rules of Procedure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Chapter IV, Section A, Subsection 1 is amended as follows:

Public Comment on Consent Calendar and Information Items.

The Council will first determine whether to move items on the agenda for action or “Information” to the “Consent Calendar”, or move “Consent Calendar” items to action. Items that remain on the “Consent Calendar” are voted on in one motion as a group. “Information” items are not discussed or acted upon at the Council meeting unless they are moved to “Action” or “Consent”.

The Council will then take public comment on any items that are either on the amended Consent Calendar or the Information Calendar. ~~Up to three speakers will be entitled to two minutes each to speak in opposition to or support of a Consent Calendar or Information item. The Presiding Officer will ask additional persons in the audience to stand to demonstrate their respective opposition to or support of the item.~~ A speaker may only speak once during the period for public comment on Consent Calendar and Information items.

~~In the event that there are more than three persons wishing to speak either in opposition to or support of a “Consent” or “Information” item, the Presiding Officer will move the item to the Action Calendar. Prior to moving the item, the Presiding Officer will fully inform those persons in the audience of this process. The Presiding Officer has the authority to reschedule the removed “Consent” or “Information” item to either the beginning or the end of the Action Calendar.~~

After hearing from public speakers regarding items remaining on the Consent Calendar and Information section of the agenda, any Councilmember may move any Information or Consent item to “Action”, however no additional items can be moved onto the Consent Calendar at that point. Following this, the Council will vote on the items remaining on the Consent Calendar in one motion.

For items removed from the Consent Calendar or Information section of the agenda to the Action Calendar for additional public comment, at the time the matter is taken up

during the Action Calendar, public comment will be limited to persons who have not previously addressed that item during the Information or Consent Calendar related public comment period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all preceding amendatory resolutions are hereby rescinded.